

## House Resolution 419

By: Representative Borders of the 175<sup>th</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing Macedonia First Baptist Church on the occasion of its 140th anniversary; and  
2 for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, in 1865, in the first few years following the Civil War and Abraham Lincoln's  
4 Emancipation Proclamation, Reverend Charles Anderson, a former slave, founded the  
5 Macedonia First Baptist Church in Valdosta, Georgia; and

6 WHEREAS, born into slavery in 1813, Reverend Anderson grew up on a farm owned by a  
7 Savannah judge, and from 1859 to 1860, he held religious services in various locations for  
8 a group of Valdosta's African American residents; and

9 WHEREAS, by early 1868, he had gathered a group of members to form the church council,  
10 which adopted the Articles of Faith of the Orthodox Baptist Church; and

11 WHEREAS, the old Troupville Baptist Church having been recently dismantled and its  
12 materials stored, Reverend Anderson gave unselfishly of his time, talent, and energy,  
13 working for several years to raise the \$130.00 needed to buy the second-hand lumber to  
14 construct a new and suitable church; and

15 WHEREAS, in 1909, two years after Reverend Anderson's death at the age of 94, Pastor  
16 A.W. Bryan supervised the construction of the sanctuary; and

17 WHEREAS, 140 years later, this spirit of determination and outstanding faith lives on in  
18 today's Macedonia First Baptist Church, and it is only fitting and proper that this body honor  
19 this church's proud tradition on this historic milestone.

20 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
21 the members of this body join in recognizing Macedonia First Baptist Church and extend

1 their sincere best wishes to each of its members on the momentous occasion of its 140th  
2 anniversary.

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
4 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Macedonia First Baptist  
5 Church.